ABSOLUTE POWER TIE-IN

18

SUPERMAN™

WILLIAMSON
CAMPBELL

13+
TEEN

HELLBOUND!

THE FINAL ACT OF THE *BATMAN: THE LONG HALLOWEEN* EPIC

BATMAN: THE LONG HALLOWEEN

THE LAST HALLOWEEN

AN ALL-NEW 10-ISSUE MYSTERY CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF TIM SALE

WRITTEN BY
JEPH LOEB

JOINED EACH ISSUE BY
ONE OF COMICS' GREATEST ARTISTS
EDUARDO RISSO · KLAUS JANSON
MARK CHIARELLO · CLIFF CHIANG
BILL SIENKIEWICZ · ENRICO MARINI
DAVE JOHNSON · BECKY CLOONAN
CHRIS SAMNEE · MATTEO SCALERA

With **DAVE STEWART**
RICHARD STARKINGS

DC

Starting in
SEPTEMBER

© & ™ DC.

I...

HATE...

MAGIC!

UGH... WHAT IS WRONG WITH ME?

SUPERMAN?!

DON'T WORRY, ZATANNA.

THE OBLIVION BAR.

AMANDA WALLER HAS WON.
A PLANETWIDE BLITZKRIEG HAS ROBBED THE WORLD'S META-HUMANS OF THEIR SUPERPOWERS AND RESOURCES. THOSE FEW WHO HAVE THUS FAR EVADED CAPTURE ARE FUGITIVES ON THE RUN, HUNTED MERCILESSLY BY TASK FORCE VII, A REGIMENT OF UNSTOPPABLE AMAZOS BUILT BY WALLER'S ALLIES, FAILSAFE AND THE BRAINIAC QUEEN.

IT APPEARS THE MAN OF STEEL IS HAVING SOME INTRUSIVE MAGICAL THOUGHTS.

WHICH MEANS THE ***MAP OF MORDU*** WANTS ***YOU*** JUST AS MUCH AS ***YOU*** WANT ***IT.***

SO WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A SEAT, HAVE A DRINK, AND MAKE A ***DEAL.***

ABSOLUTELY NOT, ***NERON.***

WE DON'T--

WHAT? IT'S NON-ALCOHOLIC.

PROMISE.

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER. BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

ABSOLUTE POWER
"I HATE MAGIC"

JOSHUA WILLIAMSON SCRIPT
JAMAL CAMPBELL ART AND COVER
ARIANA MAHER LETTERS
GUILLEM MARCH, SWEENEY BOO, AL BARRIONUEVO & ANNETTE KWOK, W. SCOTT FORBES VARIANT COVER ARTISTS
NICOLA SCOTT & ANNETTE KWOK ARTIST SPOTLIGHT VARIANT COVER ARTISTS
JILLIAN GRANT ASSISTANT EDITOR
PAUL KAMINSKI EDITOR

OH, SOMEONE CAME TO PLAY. ***LOVE IT.***

NOW C'MON. INDULGE ME. I KNOW ALL ABOUT AMANDA WALLER AND WHAT SHE HAS BEEN UP TO WITH HER POWER-STEALING AMAZOS.

YOU NEED THIS MAP SO YOU CAN SNEAK AROUND IN THE SHADOWS AND GET PAST HER DEFENSES...

SO, WHAT CAN YOU ***GIVE*** ME FOR IT?

WHAT DO YOU WANT, NERON?

WE'RE ***NOT*** SELLING OUR SOULS.

PLEASE. YOUR SOUL IS ONE OF THE PUREST I'VE EVER SEEN, SUPERMAN.

BUT YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO DIE, SO IT'S POINTLESS.

I'VE DIED.

AND YET HERE YOU SIT. ALIVE AND WELL.

AND AS FOR ***YOU,*** FISHNETS.

AFTER EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE, THE DARK MAGIC YOU'VE CONJURED, AND THE COMPANY YOU KEEP...YOUR SOUL IS PRACTICALLY MINE ALREADY.

NO NO NO, I WANT SOMETHING SO MUCH MORE INTERESTING...

...SOMETHING ***PRECIOUS.***

I WANT YOU TO *LIE.*

EXCUSE ME?

YOU. SUPERMAN.

THE LIVING EMBODIMENT OF ALL THAT IS GOOD IN THE WORLD.

A MAN OF *TRUTH,* CORRECT?

I WILL GIVE YOU THIS MAP YOU SO DESPERATELY NEED, AND IN EXCHANGE, YOU'LL BETRAY *YOURSELF.*

YOU'LL *LIE* FOR ME.

NERON...

YOU'VE GOT A DEAL.

I'LL LIE FOR YOU.

SUPERMAN, NO.

IT'S OKAY, ZATANNA.

LET'S GO.

HA. YOU THINK YOU'RE CLEVER, SUPERMAN.

BUT I ALSO KNOW YOUR SECRET. ABOUT THE ANGER YOU HIDE.

THIS IS NOT OVER.

I KNOW.

WHAT DID YOU JUST DO?!

NERON ASKED ME TO LIE...

...SO I DID.

NOW SHOW ME HOW WE CAN USE THIS MAP...

THE ARCTIC.

"PEOPLE ARE COUNTING ON US..."

I COULD GET USED TO THIS.

DON'T. THAT ARMOR WAS VERY EXPERIMENTAL, *LOIS.* LEX STARTED TO WORK ON IT ***BEFORE*** HE WAS ARRESTED, AND I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT WAS FOR...

YOU AND LEX WERE... FRIENDS?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

I WISH YOU HAD JUST STAYED WITH LENA AT HER PLACE... IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SAFER FOR YOU, SIR.

EVEN WITH YOUR MEMORY LOSS, I DON'T THINK SUPERMAN IS GOING TO BE VERY EXCITED ABOUT ME TAKING YOU TO THE FORTRESS OF--

OH NO, LOOK!

I KNOW IT WAS *HIS.*

IT WAS HIS FORTRESS. HIS HOME AWAY FROM HOME.

BUT IT MEANT SOMETHING TO *ME,* TOO. WE WOULD GO HERE TOGETHER WHEN WE WANTED IT TO BE JUST THE TWO OF US...

I...I'M SORRY, LOIS.

WHAT HAPPENED? YOU TOLD ME THEY WERE HERE...

THEY WERE.

THERE WAS CLEARLY A MASSIVE FIGHT...I'M PICKING UP SOME WEIRD READINGS HERE...*BRAINIAC* TECHNOLOGY...

BRAINIAC? BUT BRAINIAC IS *GONE...*

WHERE *ARE* THEY, MERCY?

WHERE IS *SUPERMAN?*

THE DARK ROADS.

WHERE IS THE MAP TAKING US, ZATANNA?

OLIVER QUEEN SAID WALLER CUT US OFF FROM THE ***MULTIVERSE,*** RIGHT?

BUT THE MULTIVERSE HAS ***SHADOWS,*** TOO.

WALLER MIGHT HAVE STOLEN ALL OUR POWERS, ***BUT*** THERE IS A WHOLE MULTIVERSE OF HEROES WE CAN CALL IN AS BACKUP.

SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD TURN THE TIDE OF THIS WAR IN AN INSTANT.

IT TAKES A MOMENT TO TAME THE MAP. TO GET IT TO TAKE YOU WHERE YOU WANT TO GO...

...TO FOLLOW YOUR HEART...

THIS IS WHY I HATE MAGIC.

THE RULES SEEM TO ALWAYS CHANGE.

YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T ***CONTROL*** IT.

IT'S NOT THAT.

IT JUST FEELS LIKE A POWER THAT COMES WITH TOO MUCH OF A...

UGH...

...COMES WITH WHAT...?

A COST?

YOU'RE WASTING AWAY... ARE THE DARK ROADS DOING THIS?

IT'S THE MAP.

IT PULLS FROM A PERSON'S MAGIC...BUT SINCE I DON'T HAVE ANY RIGHT NOW, IT'S PULLING FROM MY VERY *LIFE.*

YOU NEVER TOLD ME THE MAP COULD DO THIS. IF I HAD KNOWN, I WOULDN'T HAVE LET YOU--

LET ME *WHAT?*

I NEED MY MAGIC *BACK,* CLARK. NO MATTER THE SACRIFICE. *I NEED IT.*

WE'LL GET OUR POWERS BACK... WE *WILL.* BUT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

...YOU'RE SO MUCH *MORE* THAN MAGIC, ZATANNA.

AM I?

YOU'RE SUPERMAN.

AND CLARK KENT.

HELL, YOU'RE EVEN KAL-EL.

ZATANNA ISN'T A CODE NAME.

IT'S MY NAME.

THIS THING YOU SAY YOU HATE IS MY EVERYTHING.

I BARELY HAVE FRIENDS. AND THE CLOSEST I HAVE TO A RELATIONSHIP IS A CHAIN-SMOKING BRIT WHO SOLD HIS SOUL TO NOT ONE, BUT THREE DEMONS.

YOU MIGHT HAVE A LIFE OUTSIDE OF YOUR COSTUME, SUPERMAN...

...BUT WALLER DIDN'T JUST TAKE MY POWERS-- SHE TOOK MY LIFE.

NOW LET'S GO.

THE MAP LEADS US THIS WAY...

"...TO THE *HOUSE OF HEROES.*"

WE HAVEN'T BEEN HERE SINCE...

THE LAST TIME WE "DIED"...?

I WAS GOING TO SAY SINCE *PARIAH* ATTACKED US.*

WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

*IN *JUSTICE LEAGUE* #75 --PK

WALLER SENT ONE OF HER FANCY AMAZOS.

TOOK MY POWERS AND STRANDED ME HERE.

DR. LIGHT? HOW DID YOU--

AFTER THE MULTIVERSE BECAME INFINITE AGAIN, I WAS EXPLORING IT...*

BUT WALLER DID SOMETHING...

*AS IF YOU SKIPPED *DARK CRISIS* --PK (IS KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU)

"SHE BLOCKED IT OFF, BUT THAT WAS JUST THE START...SHE'S UP TO SOMETHING.

"SOMETHING *BAD.*

I THINK IT'S HER OWN BRIDGE...HER OWN *ARMY* TO FINISH THE JOB.

SHE'S BEEN ONE STEP AHEAD OF US THIS WHOLE TIME.

WHAT IS BLOCKING US OFF FROM THE MULTIVERSE?

SHE SENT AN AGENT TO LIVE IN THE BLEED. IT LAY IN WAIT FOR THE LAST YEAR, HELPING HER STOP TRAVEL BETWEEN WORLDS.

IF IT KNOWS WE ARE HERE, IT WILL KILL US.

WE NEED TO GO *NOW.*

WHAT?

WHAT IS IT? WHAT COULD POSSIBLY LIVE IN THE BLEED?

SHE'S TALKING ABOUT ME.

RUN.

UH...WHAT THE HELL IS *THAT?*

I KNOW IT.

SORT OF.

"YEARS AGO, BATMAN AND I WERE ABLE TO COMBINE USING HAL JORDAN'S RING. IT WAS A ONE-TIME-ONLY TRICK.*

*IN *BATMAN/SUPERMAN: WORLD'S FINEST* #4! IT'S A TOY NOW! --PK

"OR SO I THOUGHT... BUT IF OTHERS WERE ABLE TO FIGURE IT OUT..."

YOU CAN CALL ME KONFUSION!

IT'S FROM EARTH-3!

THE GOOD DOCTOR TELLS THE TRUTH.

YOU SEE, EVERYTHING IN *YOUR* WORLD CREATES AN OPPOSITE IN *OURS*. IT'S THE WAY OF THE MULTIVERSE.

BUT... YOU'RE NOT... *ULTRAMAN*...OR *OWLMAN*...?

NO, I'M REALLY--

KRASH-BOOM

WHAT NOW?!

IT'S THE HOUSE OF HEROES...

IT'S CRASHING!

BOOM

DON'T WORRY. WALLER LEFT ORDERS FOR YOU TO COME WITH--

AH!

TRSH

THE DAMAGE WALLER CAUSED TO THE BLEED IS TAKING THE HOUSE OF HEROES DOWN.

AND IF WE DON'T GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE ***NOW,*** WE'RE GOING TO BE TRAPPED IN THE WRECKAGE!

WE CAN'T HAVE KONFUSION FOLLOW US. BUT IF WE USE THE SHADOWS TO ESCAPE, WE CAN TRAP IT HERE, TOO.

I CAN'T... DO IT.

I CAN'T... THE MAP HAS ALREADY TAKEN TOO MUCH FROM ME...

THEN WE DO IT TOGETHER.

BUT THE MAGIC...?

IF THERE WAS EVER A TIME TO FACE MY FEARS, IT'S *NOW.*

BESIDES...THE MAP HAS BEEN CALLING ME EVER SINCE WE STARTED THIS JOURNEY, REMEMBER?

IT WANTS ME.

BUT I CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT *YOU,* ZATANNA.

IT'S WORKING...

IT WILL TAKE US TO WHERE *YOUR* HEART WANTS TO GO...

THEN WE BETTER GO *NOW!*

TTZZZZZZZZ--

NO!

KABOOM

ARE YOU SURE, MERCY?

I'VE NEVER FLOWN A JET LIKE THIS BEFORE.

AFTER ALL THE ADVENTURES YOU'VE HAD, I'M SURE YOU'LL DO FINE. JUST KEEP AN EYE ON THE AUTOPILOT AND IT WILL GET YOU BACK TO YOUR PLACE.

AND KEEP AN EYE ON LEX FOR ME, PLEASE?

WE'LL KEEP HIM OUT OF TROUBLE.

THE SUIT IS RUNNING LOW ON JUICE...

...BUT I THINK I PICKED UP A SIGNAL.

FROM SUPERMAN?

NO...FROM WALLER.

SHE'S DIRECTING ALL HER AMAZOS AND FORCES TO RETURN TO ***GAMORRA.*** SHE SUSPECTS THE HEROES ARE COMING TO GET HER...

MERCY...OUR SHADOWS...?

WHAT THE HELL?

THEY'RE GETTING *BIGGER.*

I NEED TO GET MY ARMOR BACK ON!

WALLER. SHE MUST HAVE FOUND US.

TK-TK-TK-THURK

HOLD ON.

I'D KNOW THAT SHADOW ANYWHERE.

I LOVE MAGIC.

WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED HERE, ZATANNA?

WALLER SENT JON KENT AND THE BRAINIAC QUEEN AFTER US.

BUT NOW...WE HAVE AN EDGE SHE DOESN'T HAVE.

HERE'S THE PLAN. ZATANNA, DR. LIGHT, AND I ARE GOING TO USE THE DARK ROADS TO FIND ***BATMAN*** AND ***WONDER WOMAN.***

LOIS AND MERCY ARE GOING BACK TO ***METROPOLIS.***

WALLER HAS BEEN USING A DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE HEROES, BUT WHEN SHE IS DISTRACTED BY THE FIGHT, THE *DAILY PLANET* CAN START TO REPORT ON WHAT SHE HAS BEEN UP TO.

USE THE TRUTH AGAINST HER.

ZATANNA, I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT I SAID BEFORE... I DON'T HATE MAGIC. I JUST...

I GET IT... SOMETIMES I HATE IT, TOO.

BUT I HATE ***WALLER*** MORE. AND I'LL USE THAT HATE TO FUEL THE ***MAP.***

CAN WE GET A RIDE?

TO BE CONTINUED IN *ABSOLUTE POWER* #4! AND *SUPERWOMAN SPECIAL* IN DECEMBER...

BUT WAIT...THERE'S MORE...

KRANG!

KRANG!

KRA-KRASH

PRAAAK GHHH-H!

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH AS
SUPERMAN GOES ALL IN...AGAINST

DOOMSDAY!

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

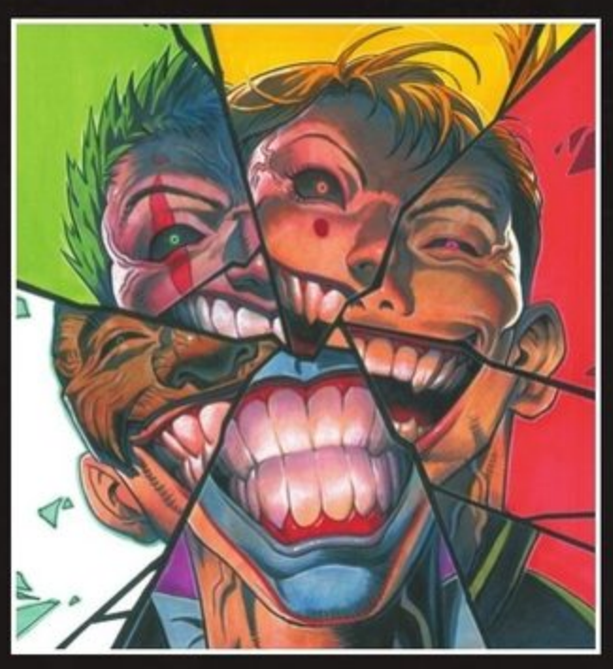
JOKER THE WORLD

This September, the Joker takes his unique brand of madness and mayhem on a world tour in *Joker: The World*, a 184-page hardcover anthology. It's the spiritual successor to *Batman: The World*, the bestselling, critically acclaimed graphic novel released in fall 2021.

This can't-miss graphic novel will feature Joker stories by creative teams representing 13 different countries, including renowned storytellers such as Geoff Johns, Satoshi Miyagawa, David Rubín, German Peralta, Alvaro Fong Varela, Jason Fabok, and others. With stories tailored to the authentic style, tone, and cultural sensibilities of different nations around the world, *Joker: The World* highlights how DC's most popular super-villain has inspired chaos on a global scale.

Uncover these unique stories celebrating the most compelling villain in popular culture.

DON'T MISS *JOKER: THE WORLD*, ON SALE THIS SEPTEMBER!



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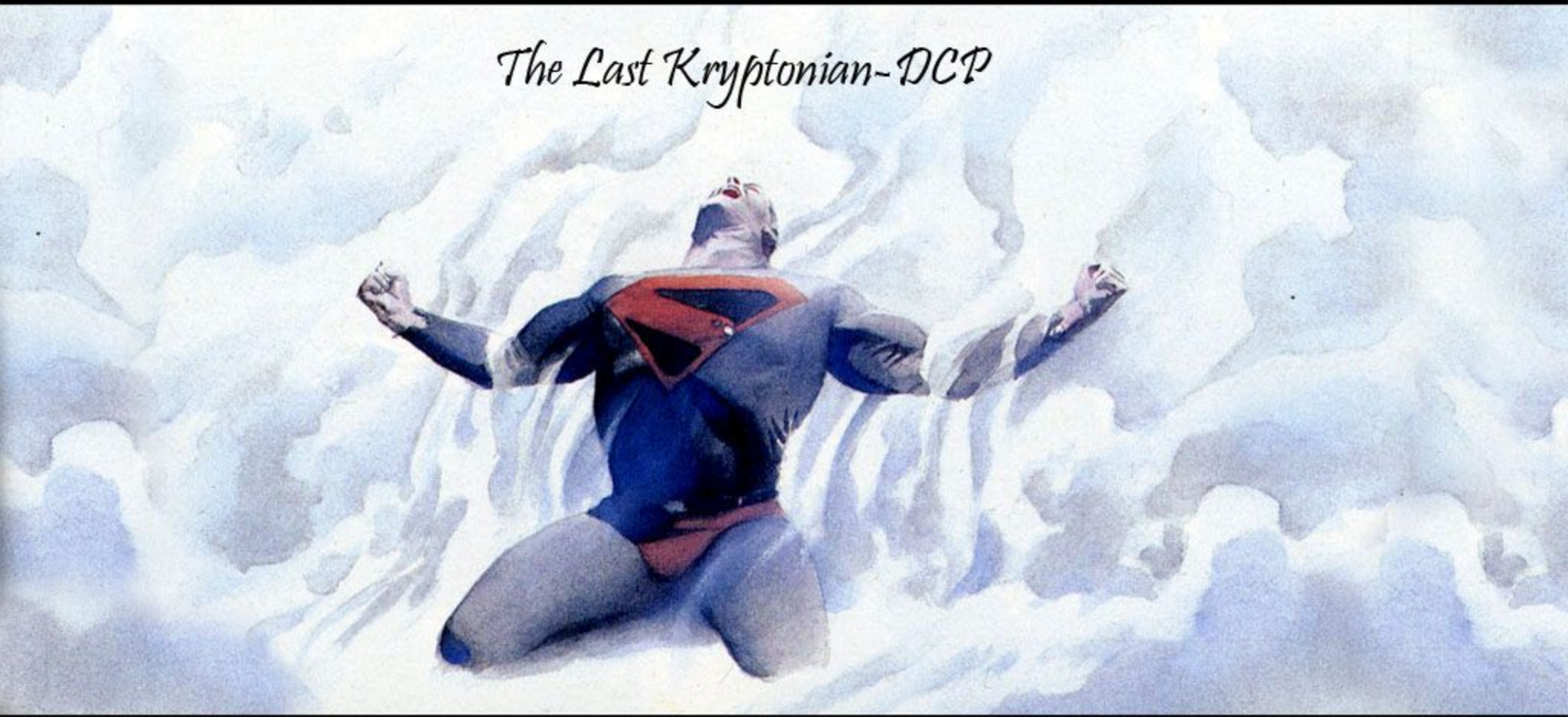
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